

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 EB-07 IO-13 USIA-06

COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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R 021610Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5932

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FROM: AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE

PASS USDA/FAS/US-USSR SECRETARIAT/NOVOTNY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, UR

SUBJ: US-USSR AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENT: US WINTER GRAIN TEAM

1. FINAL MEETING THIS GROUP JULY 2 AT MIN. AG. YIELDED
FOLLOWING:

(A) WINTER GRAINS REPLANTED TO SPRING CROPS THIS YEAR
TOTALLED SEVEL MILLION HECTARES, WHICH INCLUDES TWO MILLION
BARLEY;

(B) MIN. AG. CONSIDERS EUROPEAN USSR GRAIN CROPS TO BE IN
GENERALLY GOOD CONDITION;

(C) GROWING CONDITIONS IN NEW LANDS ARE "NOT BAD", WHICH,
IN OUR OPINION, MEANS NOT TERRIBLE, BUT CERTAINLY NOT GOOD.
TSELINOGRAD AREA SAID TO BE BETTER THIS YEAR THAN LAST.

2. NOTE THAT PANASUK FOUND MELITOPOL SOUTH ONTO CRIMEA
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DRY. TEAM ALSO FOUND DRY CONDITIONS ON DON, WEST OF

VOLGOGRAD WHERE DON-VOLGA CANAL INTERSECTS. LOCAL AUTHORITIES ALSO SAID THIS AREA EXTENDED SOUTH AN UNKNOWN DISTANCE. THIS MEANS THAT THERE IS STRIP ACROSS SOUTHERN UKRAINE STARTING WEST OF ODESSA AND EXTENDING EAST ACROSS ROSTOV OBLAST INTO VOLGA WHICH NEEDS MOISTURE FOR SPRING GRAINS. APPARENTLY IN WEST, AT LEAST, IT DOES NOT COVER LARGE NORTH-SOUTH AREA.

3. TEAM HAS WASHINGTON INSTRUCTIONS RE PRESS, ETC., AND TEAM WILL PROVIDE FULL DETAILS, BUT IN GENERAL THEY CONSIDERED SMALL GRAIN OUTPUT POTENTIAL GOOD IN TOTAL IN AREAS VIEWED. STOESEL

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